(c) the steps Government propose to take for expeditious release of funds under the said scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The figures shown in the Annual Report was for the period upto 31st January, 2001 only. The actual amount released under the scheme of girls hostels during the financial year 2000-2001 was Rs. 233.55 lakhs.

(b) The reason for less releases in the year 2000-2001 was non-receipt of the adequate proposals from the State Governments and non-utilisation of grant-in-aid released to the State Governments earlier by the Ministry.

(c) The matter is taken up with State Governments during the official level meetings and efforts are made to ensure speedier and more efficient utilization of funds by States by asking them to provide State share in State Governments budgets and release the funds in time for implementation. This has resulted in better response this year.

**Corruption in allocation of funds for SC/ST hostels and schools**

2245. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe hostels funded by his Ministry in Karnataka since 1998, till date;

(b) the number of applications pending in his Ministry for approval;

(c) whether it is fact that there are instances of involvement of officials of his Ministry in large scale corruption in the allocation of funds for such hostels/ schools; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) This Ministry sanctions hostels for Scheduled Tribes only. As many as nine hostels have been funded in Karnataka since 1998, till date.

(b) Twelve.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.